

New York 14<sup>th</sup> July

My Dear General.

The events are uncertain, a Parson amidst the most glaring prospects; may find at last nothing. But a phantom, or only a sight like in looking glass, which will never be a possession for enjoyment.

Drawing the tickets in the lottery of chance for so many years, I am too well acquainted to depend upon probabilities where even certainties are so often doubtful.

To put myself upon less precarious footing, I must contravert all possible accidents, that can befall me, and this by oversight am capable of.

Original Letter of Thaddeus Kosciuszko to General Nathanael Greene

Kosciuszko, known as "the George Washington of Poland," nobly served the cause of liberty during the American Revolution. During his lengthy sojourn in America he acquired a deep admiration for our institutions and freedoms. In this farewell letter before sailing for Europe in July 1786 he expressed his deep affection for the institutions and the people of the United States. Kosciuszko was a Colonel (stipend 60 dollars per month) in the Continental Army. His planning was largely responsible for our momentous victory at Saratoga. He also drew up the plans for the fortification at West Point.

Lent to The Freedom Train by the Museum of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, Chicago